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No. 381



December 1, 1939.

BASEMENT MAY BE USED
FOR WINTER PLAYROOM

Farm families generally have to use their basements, or part of them, for food storage, and sometimes for extra sleeping quarters. City families often have basement game rooms, but in the country a play place in the cellar is more rare.

However, _____, _____, _____,
(Name) (Title) (Institution)
reminds us that rural children need an indoor playroom in bad weather. During the winter months it may be a good idea to turn floor space in the basement over to them. Roller skates, velocipedes, electric trains and their tracks, building blocks, and other large and noisy playthings can thus be kept from other parts of the house. There will be less picking up and cleaning after the children.

This use of the basement depends largely on whether it is dry. It should also be clean, reasonably warm, easily lighted, and free from sharp corners, projecting nails, or other hazards. Potatoes, apples, and other stored fruits and vegetables require fairly high humidity and a temperature lower than is comfortable in a recreation room. This can be obtained by closing off a separate storeroom with a ventilator to the outside air. If there is no way of heating the playroom above this necessary storage temperature, children may wear extra sweaters or playsuits.

If there is the slightest feeling of dampness or clamminess, do not use the basement for a recreation room until the trouble is corrected, says _____. In a house already built, this may require drain
(Name)

tiles placed in a trench around the house, and a plaster or waterproof coat applied to the cellar walls. The Extension Service can give detailed information on making cellars dry, or it may be obtained from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., in Farmers' Bulletin 1572-F.

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